



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 29, 2007



*Office of the United States Attorney
District of Arizona*

For Information Contact Public Affairs
WYN HORNBUCKLE
Telephone: (602) 514-7625
Cell: (602) 525-2681

FUGITIVE FROM JUSTICE SENTENCED TO 13 MONTHS IN PRISON FOR POSSESSION OF A FIREARM

TUCSON – Daymon Ju-Wan Casteal, 30, of Phoenix, was sentenced on May 24 to 13 months in federal prison by U.S. District Judge Cindy K. Jorgenson. Casteal pleaded guilty on March 7, admitting illegal possession of a firearm by a fugitive from justice.

On November 2, 2006, Casteal was the driver of a vehicle that was stopped for speeding by the Tohono O’odham Police Department on Federal Route 15 at milepost 16, near the Sif Oidak District of the Tohono O’odham Nation. During the contact with the police, it was determined that Casteal was in possession of two firearms, identified as (1) a Lorcin .32 caliber pistol, model L32; and (2) a Hi-Point Firearms (Beemiller Inc.) .380 Auto caliber pistol, model CF 380. Both of these firearms had affected interstate commerce in that they were previously transported into Arizona from another state or foreign country. A records check indicated that Casteal had an active arrest warrant from Allen County, Indiana, and was thus a prohibited possessor of firearms as a fugitive from justice. During an interview with police, Casteal admitted that he had left the state of Indiana while still on probation, but knew about the warrant for his arrest because he had seen it on the internet site for Indiana’s Most Wanted.

Smith’s prosecution is part of the District of Arizona’s Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN), an illegal firearms enforcement program. The effectiveness of Project Safe Neighborhoods in Arizona is based on the ability of federal, state, and local agencies to cooperate in a unified offensive that is led by the U.S. Attorney. Through ongoing partnerships among federal, state, and local law enforcement and prosecutorial agencies, the U.S. Attorney is implementing a series of strategies that are contoured to fit the specific gun crime problems throughout Arizona.

The investigation in this case was conducted by the Tohono O’odham Police Department and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives. The prosecution was handled by Jennifer J. Maldonado, Assistant U.S. Attorney, District of Arizona.

CASE NUMBER: CR-07-0042-TUC-CKJ
RELEASE NUMBER: 2007-140(Casteal)

###